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REPORTS

-OF THE-

SELECTMEN

-AND-

Superintending School Committee

-FOR THE-

TOWN OF GRANTHAM,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1ST, 1877.

1877

LEBANON:
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1877.

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SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

THE SELECTMEN CREDIT THE TOWN AS FOLLOWS :

Rec'd of J. D. Hemphill, Treasurer 1875,	\$636 52
O. B. Buswell, collector, cash.	2,703 03
O. B. Buswell, collector in over taxes abated,	33 53
State Literary Fund,	57 15
State rail road money,	35 35
State savings bank tax,	224 43
S. W. H. Clarke, lease 1875,	12 00
Samuel Currier, " "	11 09
Benj. Sargent, " "	14 00
D. M. Bean, " 1876,	12 20
W. T. Chase, " "	5 20
Sanborn Brown, on his note,	7 10
Chester Walker, for use of town hall,	3 75
County Treasurer for poor,	376 16
J. H. Goss, Collector 1875,	574 95
Aaron Quimby, money borrowed,	602 59
B. F. Goss, " "	650 00
J. H. Goss, " "	1,084 20
M. R. Young, " "	650 00
L. D. Dunbar, " "	200 00
Dolly Burpee, " "	200 00
D. E. Ryder, " "	200 00
E. H. Messer " "	160 00
Clough girls, " "	10 00
A. M. Colby, " "	175 00
A. B. Colby, " "	25 00
H. F. Goss, " "	542 00
S. A. Marshall " "	93 25
V. Manahan, " "	59 50
	\$9,358 00

THE SELECTMEN CHARGE THE TOWN AS FOLLOWS :

Paid State Tax,	\$516 00
County Tax,	486 29
	\$1,002 29

SCHOOL ORDERS.

Paid Dis. No.	1,	W. O. Hurd, com.	\$167 23
	2,	D. C. Currier, com.	58 95
	3,	T. B. Alexander, com.	137 50
	4,	S. R. Smith, com.	37 15
	5,	Samuel Fisher, com.	47 94
	6,	L. B. Hayward, com.	58 62
	7,	R. Howard, com.	43 11
	10,	A. G. Coon. com.	71 91
	10,	H. F. Goss, agt. school house tax,	19 04
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			\$641 45

WORK ON HIGHWAYS.

Paid Geo. Currier,	\$	75
J. S. Clement, on Sugar Hill road,		22 75
N. J. Hastings, on Leavitt Hill road,		13 75
A. Hall and son, timber and plank,		19 30
O. F. Buswell,		3 75
J. H. Morse, plank,		1 70
John Hastings, plank and repairing Clement road,		7 31
N. L. Shedd, repairing bridge,		11 00
J. D. Hemphill, " "		6 84
H. H. Currier, use of scraper,		1 25
J. S. Clement, on Brook road,		2 50
Samuel Currier, on turnpike,		8 00
Geo. Colburn, Stony Brook road,		3 50
L. B. Hayward, plank and timber,		1 50
D. C. Currier, on Howe Hill road,		13 10
Geo. F. Peabody, in 1875,		6 56
Joab Walker, in 1875, <i>School money</i>		15 50
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		\$139 06

BREAKING ROADS, 1876

Paid Samuel Currier, surveyor,	\$34 65
Geo. Colburn, "	11 15
L. B. Hayward, "	11 24
James Barton, "	14 44
W. H. Miller, "	23 71
Sanborn Brown, "	23 20
J. Litchfield, "	5 00
D. C. Currier, "	22 30
Josiah Leavitt, "	9 10
Wm. Stocker,	6 00

Paid Joab Walker, surveyor,	5 00
O. F. Buswell, "	11 70
Jona. Merrill, "	3 20
Jno. Hastings, "	15 50
N. J. Hastings, "	3 20
Oliver Nichols, "	9 99
N. L. Shedd, "	3 00
D. E. Ryder, "	6 60
S. R. Smith, "	8 00
Geo. Currier, "	3 80

\$230 78

OLD ROAD BILLS.

Paid Oliver Nichols, breaking roads in 1875,	\$14 00
Abijah Powers, " "	1 50
George Currier, " "	10 20
Josiah Leavitt, " "	4 00
J. S. Clement, " "	5 60
M. V. B. Hastings, " "	10 00
H. H. Currier, " "	4 60
John Whitaker, " "	27 00
D. B. Frye, " "	5 00
D. C. Currier, " "	6 00
D. M. Bean, " "	16 40

\$104 35

TOWN OFFICERS.

Paid Rufus Hall for services of A. Hall as Select- man and Treasurer,	\$25 00
W. H. Eastman, services on investigating com.	15 00
O. B. Buswell, " "	15 00
L. D. Dunbar, " "	25 00
L. D. Dunbar, services as Treasurer,	10 00
L. N. Sargent, " Town Clerk,	12 00
Geo. H. Walker, " S. S. Com.	20 00
J. S. Clement, " Selectman,	25 00
Chester Walker, " "	35 00

\$182 00

PAID ON NOTES AND INTEREST.

Paid Isaac W. Hook, note taken up,	\$ 48 44
J. D. Hemphill, 2 notes taken up,	293 48
H. F. Goss, note taken up,	1,046 16

Paid Dorcas Emerson, note taken up,	748 92
Abijah Emerson, note taken up,	917 56
B. A. Sargent, 3 notes taken up,	569 20
A. L. Brown, note taken up,	89 56
John M. Dow, note taken up,	213 17
Susan B. Smith, on note,	50 00
J. M. Camp, on note,	122 91
Dolly Burpee, on note,	60 00
Congregational Society, on note,	350 00
J. H. Goss, on note,	400 00
George B. Barton, interest,	7 33
John Cooper, "	36 00
J. D. Hemphill, "	12 00
Azubah Sawyer, "	18 50
E. P. Stickney, "	7 11
Methodist Society, "	6 00
Seth Littlfield, "	43 14
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	\$5,039 48

FOR SUPPORT OF POOR, ALL OF WHOM ARE COUN- TY CHARGES.

Paid by A. Hall,	\$249 71
Augustus Hackett for Nellie Cilley,	26 50
H. G. Clough, for Mrs. Buel,	26 52
Wm. T. Chase, for G. W. Chase,	77 50
J. S. Clement for Emma Chase,	17 80
I. W. Hook, for Jos. Howard,	10 90
L. E. Lewis, for I. Drake,	22 00
Wm. West, for L. N. Hibbard,	5 28
J. W. Phelps for Eliza Phelps,	17 50
Lucy Phelps for children,	26 00
Dr. Barton for G. W. Chase,	19 75
Dunbar & Sargent for goods furnished,	41 04
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	\$540 50

DAMAGE DONE TO SHEEP BY DOGS.

Paid O. B. Buswell,	\$10 00
Samuel Emerson,	10 00
H. J. Walker,	6 50
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	\$26 50

DAMAGE ON HIGHWAY.

Paid C. A. Thompson, damage to horse,	\$20 00
Jas. G. Stockan, " " and wagon,	5 00
Samuel Emerson, " "	8 00
Simon Horton, " "	4 00
C. H. Horton, " "	2 50
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	\$37 50

SUNDRY BILLS.

Paid Wm. Kendall, printing town reports 1875,	\$12 00
E. H. Cheney, " " " 1876,	10 00
E. C. Eastman, stationary,	8 35
Edmund Burke, counsel fees,	5 00
L. W. Barton, " "	5 00
Rufus Hall, care of hearse,	13 50
O. B. Buswell, watering trough 3 years,	9 00
N. Russell, " "	3 00
Samuel Emerson, " "	2 00
L. N. Sargent, stationery,	50
G. H. Walker, notices and book,	1 10
L. D. Dunbar, box,	4 00
Benj. Sargent, asst. perambulating town lines,	3 50
W. R. Bartlett, journey to County Farm,	2 00
J. S. Clement, journey to County Farm,	2 00
Chester Walker, journey to County Farm,	2 50
Jon. S. Clement, journey to Hanover,	2 00
Jon. S. Clement, journey to Newport,	2 00
Chester Walker, two journeys to Newport,	3 50
Chester Walker, journey to Newport and expenses,	6 50
Chester Walker, one journey to Goshen,	1 75
O. F. Buswell, putting guards by road,	6 37
Over tax,	31 40
Non-resident,	2 13

 \$139 10

Taxes assessed 1876,		\$4,244 79
Collector paid to Treasurer cash,	\$2,703 03	
Over tax,	31 40	
Non-resident, worked,	2 13	\$2,736 56

Leaving uncollected,		\$1,508 23
Amount of receipts,	\$9,358 00	
Amount of Expenditures,	8,082 91	

 Leaving in hands of L. D. Dunbar Treas., \$1,275 09

TAXES ON COLLECTOR'S BOOK OF 1872, ABATED.

E. Austin,	\$2 00	A. D. Corliss,	\$2 80
Sumuel W. Dunbar,	2 00	O. F. Flanders,	5 00
H. Gault,	2 92	H. Flanders,	2 00
E. Howe,	2 00	D. Hibbard,	3 20
A. M. Lewis,	5 52	Jona. Merrill,	8 00
Danl. Merrill,	4 32	J. W. Marshall,	2 00
Jas. Nelson,	2 12	J. E. Rollins,	2 00
N. Rawson,	24 06	Jas. M. Russell,	3 32
Danl. Stone,	16 12	Sim. R. Smith,	4 92
C. C. Thornton,	9 00	Chas. E. Thornton,	2 00
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			\$105 30

The above list includes all previous abatements on this book.
 Now due on Collector's book of 1872, \$48 00.

TAXES ON COLLECTOR'S BOOK 1875.

E. Austin,	\$2 58	H. Flanders,	\$ 2 22
Wm. Corliss,	3 02	Fred C. Leavitt,	4 44
D. Merrill,	2 66	Jona. Merrill,	9 28
W. S. B. Merrill,	17 05	J. J. Morse,	4 55
S. R. Smith,	3 14	Danl. Stone,	14 43
A. S. Walker,	2 22	<hr/>	
			\$65 59

The above list includes all previous abatements on this book.
 Now due on Collector's book 1875, \$220 00

AVAILABILITIES OF THE TOWN.

Sugar River R. R. Stock,	\$1,000 00
Due on leases	77 39
Due from the County,	107 59
on John Clarke's note,	400 00
on Collector's book of 1872,	48 00
on Collector's book of 1875,	220 00
on Collector's book of 1876,	1,508 23
from E. R. Boyce,	400 00
from Sanborn Brown on note,	28 00
from L. D. Dunbar, Treasurer,	1,275 09
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\$5,064 30	

LIABILITIES OF THE TOWN.

Notes against the town,	20,300 00
Interest due on the same,	1,600 00
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Total indebtedness,	\$21,900 00
Less Availabilities,	5,064 30
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	\$16,835 70

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHESTER WALKER, } Selectman of
JOHN S. CLEMENT, } Grantham.

SCHOOL REPORT.

TO THE SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF GRANTHAM:

Another school year has passed, and it is my duty, in accordance with law, to report to you and to the citizens of this town, the condition of their common schools during the past year, to note the progress they have made, to point out the errors which have occurred, so that if we profit by experience they may be avoided in the future, and to make known to you, as far as I am able, their present and future wants. In submitting my report I take opportunity presented of congratulating the citizens of the town upon the very general good character of their schools the past year. While there have been no real failures, I am obliged to report one or two of the schools as far less profitable than they should have been, but on the other hand there have been several very excellent schools—notably, the winter terms in Districts No.'s 1 and 3. On the whole, I think our schools for the past year will compare favorably with the schools of past years. But should we rest contented with this result? Should we not make an effort to improve our schools each year? If one-tenth of the interest and energy was manifested in the effort to improve our schools that is shown by our people in the prosecution of their pecuniary affairs, we should find that such a thing as an unsuccessful and unprofitable school would rarely be recorded. Young and

inexperienced teachers are often employed for the reason that they will teach for less pay than an older and more experienced one. This is a great evil and one of the greatest obstacles to the improvement of our schools. It drives the superior class of teachers out of the ranks, forces them to seek other employments where they are better paid, and by the time the younger teachers have gained experience and become of value they are in their turn pushed out by new comers. This is the rule, though there are many exceptions. Some of our inexperienced teachers have been very successful, much more so than some who have had far more experience. Another cause of poor schools is the want of interest manifested by teachers. No one should engage in teaching who does not feel a pleasure in their work. It is a well established fact that no person can succeed in any business if he does not love his work and feel interested in it. More particularly is this true in the case of teachers. A teacher who dislikes children could feel no interest in teaching them, and could not, of course, be expected to gain and retain their affection, and certainly without so doing it is evident no school could be profitable or successful. Though so much depends upon the teacher a share at least of responsibility rests upon parents. Would it not be better for parents to visit their schools occasionally and see for themselves the practical working of the system which has so large a share in moulding and shaping the future men and women of our country? Instead of doing this, however, very few parents enter the school house during the year, but seem to be satisfied with the fact that their children attend school, without informing themselves whether their time has been profitably employed or not. With these brief remarks I will proceed with the special report of each District.

DISTRICT No. 1.

The *Summer Term* was taught by Miss Elbra B. Sargent. This school appeared well at the commencement of the term, but was somewhat broken up on account of the ill health of the teacher. The classes in Arithmetic and Grammar appeared very well indeed and deserve mention. Singing at the close of the term, to which we listened with much pleasure. Sarah H. Rollins, Ellen A. A. Lewis, Etta A. Shaw, Elmer Spiller, Willard O. Lewis and Harry W. Hurd were neither absent nor tardy during the term.

The *Winter Term* is under the instruction of Mr. Albert W. Flanders. This school appeared very well on my first visit, and gave promise of being one of the best schools in town, but

the school still being in session, and as I have not visited it since its commencement, I cannot report the degree of progress it has made; but from Mr. Flanders' former good success as a teacher, and from the general satisfaction of the District, I have every reason to believe the school a successful one.

DISTRICT NO. 2.

Summer Term taught by Mrs. Grace I. Spiller. This teacher seemed to be interested in her school and worked hard for the benefit of her pupils, but the term being so short they had hardly got settled to their work before the term closed. Could not the people of this District find means to prolong their school when they have a good one? A very few dollars would lengthen the school a week or two, and one week added is worth two weeks of the first of the term. There were two prizes in school. First prize, a book for best scholarship, won by Walter H. Austin. Second prize, a silver quarter for the greatest number of headmarks, won by Charles M. Hastings.

Winter Term taught by Miss Sarah E. Clough. Miss Clough was well qualified to teach the school, but evinced less interest in the welfare of her pupils than could have been desired, consequently but little progress was made. L. Jane Austin was neither absent nor tardy during the term.

DISTRICT NO. 3.

Summer Term taught by Miss Minnie L. Gilfillan. This is one of the most forward schools in town considering the age of the pupils. The progress made was very good indeed with the exception of writing, which was very much neglected. Imla S. Brown was neither absent nor tardy during the term.

Winter Term was under the instruction of Mrs. Harriet G. Clough. A teacher of much ability and experience. The examination at the close of the term was the most interesting it has been my pleasure to witness. Teacher and pupils were one in purpose, and a good degree of progress was the result. The first class in Arithmetic was the most thorough I have found in town. Valentine L. Hastings, Imla S. Brown, John L. Brown, L. Arthur Hastings, Geo. H. Hastings, Katie B. Clough and Carrie F. Newell were neither absent nor tardy during the term.

DISTRICT No. 4.

Summer Term taught by Miss P. E. Spalding. This district is quite backward on account of the small amount of school money. The order and method of instruction were unexceptionable, and the progress made was very fair. Edith M. Hastings, Susie E. Hastings and Arthur K. Hastings were neither absent nor tardy during the term.

II

Fall Term under the instruction of Miss Alma H. Wood. Not receiving notice of the commencement of this school I did not visit it until the close of the third week, at which time the school appeared very well. There being but five weeks of school I did not visit it again. Edith M. Hastings was neither absent nor tardy during the term.

DISTRICT No. 5.

Summer and Fall Terms of this school were both taught by Miss Flora C. Clough. Miss Clough is one of our best teachers, and fully sustained her reputation here. This school is small, and the pupils have an abundance of time to study, which I am glad to say they did to an extent really commendable to both teacher and pupils. The exercises at the close of the fall term were very interesting. There were several declamations, and prizes awarded. Mary E. Buckley and Hannah L. Buckley were neither absent nor tardy during the summer term. Mary L. Miller and Loren A. Miller were neither absent nor tardy during the fall term.

DISTRICT No. 6.

There was but one term in this District the past year, taught by Miss P. Estelle Spalding. This school appeared very well at the commencement, but the day appointed for examination proved to be a very stormy one, and as the school closed on that day I failed to visit it the second time, and consequently I cannot report the progress made. From Miss Spaulding's former good success, however, and the general satisfaction of the district, I believe the school to have been a successful one.

DISTRICT No. 7.

There was but one term the past year in this district, taught by Miss Nellie L. Clough. This school was truly beneficial. The improvement made in the different branches was unusually good. Miss Clough has a faculty of gaining the good will of her pupils, which, together with good government, discipline and general good management, qualifies her for a successful teacher.

DISTRICT No. 8.

Summer Term taught by Miss Mary E. Brown. A teacher of about the right metal, to govern this school. Her former good reputation was fully sustained here. Teacher and pupils were one in purpose, and much progress was made. The school was conducted with complete success. At the close of the term the exercises were unusually interesting, declamations from several of the pupils. Warren A. Sargent, Geo. O. Hall, were neither absent nor tardy during the term.

Winter Term taught by Miss Sarah E. Clough. This school appeared very well on my first visit. I was soon afterwards informed that there was trouble in this school, which resulted in three or four of the pupils leaving. This of course very much interfered with the progress of the school. Several other pupils left the school during the term. The school finally closed with less than one half the number at the commencement, the examination at the close of the term showed less progress than was desirable. Several pupils left near the close of the term on account of whooping cough, and those remaining perhaps could not do justice to themselves or teacher, for the same reason. Etta Cole was neither absent nor tardy during the term.

The above is respectfully submitted.

GEORGE H. WALKER, S. S. COMMITTEE.

Tabular View of Schools.

No. of District.		Names of Teachers.	Length of school in weeks of five days.		Whole attendance.	Average attendance.	Number not attending.	Number in Reading.	Number in Spelling.	Number in Penmanship.	Number in Arithmetic.	Number in Geography.	Number in Grammar.	No. of visits by S. S. Com.	No. of visits by Pru. Com.	No. of visits by Citizens.	Wages of Teachers per month
Terms— 1 Summer, 2 Fall, 3 Winter.																	
1	1	Elbia B. Sargent.	8	30	27	3	27	27	15	17	3	7	2	0	7	\$24 00	
1	3	Albert W. Flanders.	14	36			36	36	20	34	7	9				35 00	
2	1	Grace I. Spiller.	5	9	7	1	9	9	7	7	0	0	2	1	1.	17 00	
2	2	Sarah E. Clough.	6	13	9	0	13	13	8	11	6	7	2	0	0	18 00	
2	1	Minnie L. Gilfillan.	10	18	15	0	18	18	0	13	8	0	2	0	13	21 00	
3	3	Harriet G. Clough.	12	26	24	0	26	26	10	20	5	11	2	1	29	20 00	
4	1	P. Estelle Spalding.	5	11	10	1	11	11	4	7	3	0	2	0	7	16 00	
4	2	Alma H. Wood.	5	14	11	2	14	14	5	9	3	2	1	0	7	12 00	
5	1	Flora C. Clough.	8	8	7	0	8	8	8	7	2	0	2	0	16	11 00	
5	2	Flora C. Clough.	9	7	6	0	7	7	7	6	2	0	2	0	11	11 00	
6	2	P. Estelle Spalding.	12	12	9	0	12	12	5	11	4	2	1	2	8	19 00	
7	2	Nellie L. Clough.	12	10	8	0	10	10	8	0	2	2	1	22	20 00		
8	1	Mary E. Brown.	9	17	14	2	17	17	10	12	4	7	2	0	23	20 00	
8	3	Sarah E. Clough.	10	14	10	1	14	14	8	12	4	6	3	0	21	28 00	

Winter term in District No. 1 not closed.